

FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

Submitted by: Brian R. Barrette

Finding: Property Inspection Records are backlogged due to the lack of Data Recorders.

Background and Supporting Evidence:

It has been reported that there is a huge backlog of property inspections in the Basin, and even when they are being carried out, a long delay in entering the data into a main frame or other shared computers. As a result, the problem properties are not readily identified, and flagged for action. Inspections are being carried out by Fire District Staff when available. It is unclear whether the USFS are carrying out any inspections on SRA land as part of the balancing of acres agreement.

Recommendation(s) Purchase 20 data recorders and a file server that can be accessed by all fire departments in the Basin. Standardize the inspection form so that all are using the same form. With the data recorders, the inspections can be rapidly downloaded, and problem properties can be readily flagged for action. The file server could be housed with one of the local fire districts, the Forest Service, or the Cal Fire Office is SLT.

☐ **Impacts of Implementation:**

The data recorders can be purchased for under \$1,000 and the file server for under \$2,000. An IT person could develop a standardized inspection form relatively easily once all districts agree upon a single form. If implemented, it would speed up significantly the follow up inspections, and should make the inspection process more efficient. Monthly summaries could be easily generated by who ever ends up with the file server; thus progress or lack thereof would be easily determined, and adjustments made as necessary. A source of funding; estimated at less than \$30,000 would need to be identified. A possible source would be HP, Intel, or their Foundations, or Federal grants such as those for Homeland Security measures.

Analysis of impacts on the following factors is OPTIONAL:

Would require cooperation between the USFS and the Cal Fire Units involved, as well as the local Fire Districts to develop a standard inspection form, and to agree to carry out the inspections on an accelerated pace.

PROPOSED